

Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 NSC-10 NSCE-00 PM-03 L-02

NEA-06 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 EB-03

COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 SCEM-01 INT-01 DRC-01 /068 W

----- 090715

R 131542Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0537

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 1187

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG LY IT

SUBJECT: ENI OPERATIONS IN LIBYA AND THE MAJORS'

1. IN JULY 1973 THE ENI-NOC (NATIONAL OIL CORP) 50-50 JOINT VENTURE EXPORTED ABOUT 130 THOUSAND BARRELS PER DAY. SUSPECTING THAT THE FLOW WAS ON THE RISE, WE ASKED THE ITALIAN EMBASSY SEPT 13. THEY THOUGHT SO TOO, CHECKED WITH ENI, AND REPORTED THE FIGURE WAS NOW 200 THOUSAND B/P/D--AND MOREOVER THAT ENI HAD AN INDICATION FROM THE LARG THAT 270 THOUSAND B/P/D WOULD BE ALLOWED.

2. HOWEVER, WE ALSO CHECKED SEPT 13 WITH OCCIDENTAL, THROUGH WHOSE PORT THE ENI-NOC OIL IS EXPORTED. THEY SAY IT IS FLOWING AT ONLY ABOUT 137 THOUSAND B/P/D, BECAUSE OF TECHNICAL PROBLEMS INCLUDING DIFFICULTIES WITH WATER INJECTION. THEY ALSO SAY THEIR AGREEMENT WITH ENI PROVIDES FOR A MAXIMUM FLOW OF 200 THOUSAND B/P/D, WHICH HAS NEVER BEEN REACHED.

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3. OPENING UP A BIT MORE THAN USUAL, ITALIAN AMB
MAROTTA CONFIRMED TO ME SEPT 13 WHAT HE HAD ALLUDED
TO BEFORE--THAT ABOUT TWO MONTHS AGO AN ENI
NEGOTIATING TEAM HERE RECEIVED AN INQUIRY FROM THE
LARG IF ENI WOULD BE PREPARED TO OPERATE ANY OTHER
OIL COMPANY'S INTERESTS THAT MIGHT BE NATIONALIZED.
MAROTTA INDICATED THAT THE ENI REP DISCOURAGED THE
IDEA, BUT AS IT WAS HYPOTHETICAL HE DID NOT DELIVER
A DEFINITE REFUSAL. MOREOVER, HE SAID, THE LIBYANS
HAVE NOT RAISED THE SUBJECT AGAIN. (ONE SHOULD ADD,
SO FAR AS IS KNOWN. THE ITALIAN EMBASSY FREQUENTLY
APPEARS TO BE SURPRISNGLY UNINFORMED OR OPAQUE ON ENI AFFAIRS.)

JOSIF

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